



KENNEDALE TownCenter Herald

WWW.CITYOFKENNEDALE.COM/SUBSCRIBE

MEETINGS

WWW.CITYOFKENNEDALE.COM/CAL
LOCATION: CITY HALL (405 MUNICIPAL DRIVE)

Tuesday, Feb. 23rd - 7:00 p.m.
Economic Development Corporation (EDC)

Wednesday, Mar. 2nd - 7:00 p.m.
Parks & Recreation Board

Monday, Mar. 7th - 4:00 p.m.
Youth Advisory Council www.cityofkennedale.com/YAC
YAC is now taking applications from students who will be in high school during the '16-17 school year

Tuesday, Mar. 8th - 6:00 p.m.
Keep Kennedale Beautiful Commission (KKB)

Tuesday, Mar. 15th - 6:00 p.m.
Kennedale Historical Society Meeting
Meetings are the third Tuesday of each month
www.kennedalehistoricalsociety.wordpress.com

Thursday, Mar. 17th - 7:00 p.m.
Planning & Zoning Commission (P&Z)

Monday, Mar. 21st - 7:00 p.m.
City Council Meeting (Work Session begins at 5:30 p.m.)

Tuesday, Mar. 22nd - 7:00 p.m.
Economic Development Corporation (EDC)

Friday, Mar. 25th
Good Friday: City Offices Closed

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Wednesday, Feb. 24th - More Info on Back Page
Simple Recycling Pick-ups Begin

Thursday, Feb. 25th - 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
Meet-and-Greet with Commissioner Andy Nguyen
Chamber Offices (205 W. Kennedale Pkwy., TownCenter)
Upcoming Events: www.kennedalechamber.com/events

Thursday, Mar. 3rd - 6:30 to 8:00 p.m.
Silent Auction: Brickworks Scholarship Fundraiser
KJHS Cafeteria www.cityofkennedale.com/scholarship

Wednesday, Mar. 23rd - 11:30 a.m.
KACC Networking Luncheon: Dallas Fed
Life Fellowship Church; 611 Little School Road

Friday, Apr. 1st - 11:00 a.m.
KACC Clay Shoot Fundraiser

April 15th to 17th - More Info on Back Page!
Brickworks Festival KennedaleArtsFestival.com

Saturday, May 14th
KKB Don't Mess with Texas Clean-up at Sonora

Saturday, May 21st
Bark in the Park & KIDFISH at Sonora

Tuesdays at Noon
Rotary Club Luncheon No Frills Grill in Arlington
www.kennedalerotaryclub.com



Have a community event or story for the newsletter? Let us know!
lgalloway@cityofkennedale.com

Water Rate Increase



MAYOR BRIAN JOHNSON

As many of you already know, council recently approved a water and sewer rate increase. An average household can expect their monthly bill to go up approximately \$35.00, beginning with the bill due in April.

This is a decision City Council seriously deliberated at the January meeting. If you have time, please listen to my latest podcast (www.cityofkennedale.com/mayor) for a background on our water system and why rates must ensure longterm maintenance of the infrastructure.

The first step was the formation of a Water Rate Committee last fall. Members explored – alongside staff – the appropriateness of our current rates. I'm a firm believer in building consensus and that means sitting down with those who may not see eye-to-eye with the city.

To that end, we included residents who had voiced complaints in-person and on NextDoor, as well as members of several HOAs, commer-

cial customers, school board members, and one member of a previous Water Rate Committee.

By including people not typically involved in city government and residents with utility billing complaints, we hoped to get an unbiased perspective. If these residents could look at the facts and conclude that a rate increase was necessary, that is a much more powerful statement than staff or council making the call.

I'd like to thank each committee member for volunteering their time and knowledge to this process. The decision to increase costs for our residents is never taken lightly, and we are conscious that the money collected must be spent wisely. I have faith that our council does just that, and I hope you do as well.

For additional information, see page 2.

Brian P. Johnson



Get to Know Your County Commissioner

The Kennedale Area Chamber of Commerce (KACC) invites you to their office in TownCenter for a meet-and-greet with Commissioner Andy Nguyen on Thursday, February 25th from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

To spur economic development, transportation has been a major focus of Commissioner Nguyen's office. Recently, he's played an integral role in establishing Kennedale's Railroad Quiet Zone as well as establishing Link Street and reconstructing Kenney, Sulphur, Broadway, Paula, and Meadowview. Larger scale projects



COMMISSIONER
ANDY NGUYEN

include the extension of Highway 360, the 360/I-30 interchange, and addressing rush hour congestion at the I-20/287 intersection.

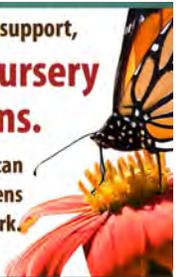
Keep track of these projects and initiatives by searching "Tarrant County Commissioner Andy Nguyen" on Facebook or following Andy on Twitter @AndyNguyenTC.

More Info: www.kennedalechamber.com/events

Mayor Johnson took the NWF Monarch Pledge to help protect monarchs and pollinators. In support, **KKB is offering residents \$25 vouchers for Stegall's Nursery to purchase nectar-producing plants for their gardens.**

After planting, residents can email their garden's address to lgalloway@cityofkennedale.com so it can be added to the map at www.cityofkennedale.com/KKB. The goal is to have 20 local butterfly gardens before migration begins around March 28th. KKB will plant milkweed at Sonora and TownCenter Park.

For more information, contact Kelly Cooper at kcooper@cityofkennedale.com.



Council Approves Water Rate Changes

	Previous Rate (Current: ~25% of revenues recovered through Base Charge)	New Rate (Projected: ~68% of revenues recovered through Base Charge)	Cost Difference
Base (Fixed) Charge <i>Monthly fee for service.</i>	\$13.87	\$34.50	+ \$20.63/Month
Volume (Variable) Rates per 1,000 Gallons <i>Structured to encourage conservation. Goal: Majority of households using 20,000 gallons or less, monthly.</i>			
0-5,000 Gallons	\$2.79	\$2.00	- 0.79 / 1,000 Gallons
5,000-20,000 Gallons	\$5.27	\$5.35	+ 0.08 / 1,000 Gallons
20,000-50,000 Gallons		\$6.37	+ 1.10 / 1,000 Gallons
50,000+ Gallons	\$6.19	\$8.06	+ 1.87 / 1,000 Gallons

Chart reflecting rate changes for a residential customer with a .75" meter (the most common size), within the city limits.

For a full schedule of current rates, please visit www.cityofkennedale.com/waterrates.

City Council voted at the January 18th meeting to increase the base (fixed) charge and restructure the volume (variable) rates. In an effort to encourage conservation, the pricing of the lowest volume tier was decreased and higher tiers increased.

The new rates will be reflected on the utility bills received in March. An average household can expect to see an increase of \$35.00 per month.

Water is one of our most precious natural resources and affects almost every aspect of life. Because the water infrastructure is primarily underground, it's often "out of sight, out of mind" as far as most of us are concerned. As a water supplier, however, cities must always plan for necessary infrastructure maintenance, which is funded

by monthly water bills. Periodically, utility rates are reviewed to ensure that adequate funds can be generated to cover projected costs. Rates were last reviewed in July of 2013, and the structure thus far kept the fixed rates low while increasing the variable rates as necessary.

However, 85% of our costs are fixed while only 15% are variable. Under this former pricing model, we collected just 25% of water revenues from the base rates, which means we only fully recover costs when we have high usage (as in the case of low rainfall or a drought).

This pricing model is not sustainable, and the newly adopted rates move us closer to the ultimate goal of recovering 100% of fixed costs through the fixed base rates.

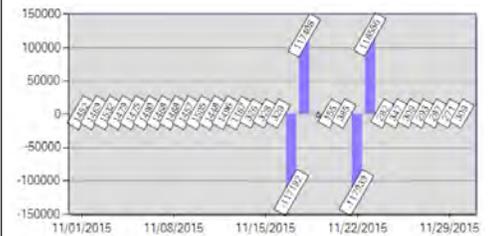


- 1 Water meter is equipped with an MTU
- 2 Reads transmitted to DCU (Data Collection Unit)
- 3 Billing Office receives usage numbers

MTU Replacements

In 2013, MTUs (Meter Transmission Units) were installed on all water meters to send usage data electronically, eliminating the need for staff to manually read meters monthly. Our MTU model was recently recalled because it sometimes drops the last two digits of the usage numbers.

Rest assured, the actual meters are properly measuring your usage. The problem is in the transmission of those numbers. As always, bills are monitored for unusual spikes, and in those cases, meters are manually read and bills corrected before mailing.



What does all that mean? When an MTU sends in a truncated reading, your usage graph will look erratic (as shown above). To correct this problem, replacement MTUs are being provided by the manufacturer (Aclara) and installed by our water billing service (Fathom Water) around April of this year. The installation process takes just a few minutes, and will not cost the city or residents anything, as it is a recall. There will be no interruption of service during this time, but residents will see Fathom crewmembers working for about a month.

UTILITYCONNECT.
kennedale.utilityconnect.net
817-607-5407 or 877-714-5569

Utility Connect helps people who are moving into or within Kennedale quickly set up new utilities and services. Our city's dedicated agent will tell you which providers are available, research the best rates according to your usage and needs, and set up installation times that fit within your schedule. Even if you're not moving, they can help you find the best rates.

Kennedale uses Chloramine as Water Disinfectant

To prevent waterborne illnesses, a disinfectant – usually chlorine or chloramine – is used to treat ground and surface water. **In June 2011, the City of Kennedale changed our disinfectant from chlorine to chloramine.** This was necessary in order to blend water purchased from the City of Fort Worth with our

own well water. Because Fort Worth is treating surface water, they utilize chloramine to reduce the levels of disinfection byproducts.

Chloramine is toxic in dialysis water and must be removed from water used in dialysis machines. A condition known as hemolytic anemia can occur if the disinfectant is not

completely removed from the water that is used for the dialysate. The pretreatment scheme used for the dialysis units must include some means, such as a charcoal filter, to remove the chloramine. **Chloraminated water may be toxic to fish.** Make sure your chemicals and filters are designed for use with chloramine-treated water.

Library Programs and New Partnerships

Amanda King joined us in January as the new Library Director. She's planning "community conversations" where residents can discuss what they want from their library. The meetings are Thursday, March 10th and 24th at 6:00 p.m. and Saturday, March 12th at noon.

Summer Reading Club registration begins Sunday, May 1st, and the program runs from June 4th through July 23rd.

Little Listener's **Storytime** and Craft is every Wednesday at 10:30 a.m.

The Kennedale Library partnered with the Arlington and Mansfield Libraries. Now, a library card from any of the three



consortium libraries will be honored at all the others if the patron lives within one of the consortium cities.

MORe (morelibrary.org) is an online portal showcasing the electronic resources offered by the Kennedale, Arlington, Mansfield, and Grand Prairie Libraries.

If you have questions about any of these programs, please call 817-985-2136, email aking@cityofkennedale.com, or visit www.kennedalelibrary.org.

MUNICIPAL ELECTION: MAY 7TH

Kennedale's governmental structure and division of power is defined by the city's charter, which is essentially a city's constitution. Our charter has not been reviewed since its adoption in 1998, and recently a Charter Review Committee was established.

They've recommended seven amendments: extending council terms from two years to three, changing the procedure for appointment of City Secretary, and adjusting the dates for budget and audit submissions. The amendments will be on the May 7th ballot, along with Mayor Brian Johnson and Council Places 2 and 4 (held by Liz Carrington and Kelly Turner).



Rotary Club Flags

Placing flags at homes and businesses on patriotic holidays is a service project of the Kennedale Rotary Club.

With your donation of \$40 or more, your address will be added to the route. Show your American pride and support your community! Contact Ron Whitley at lnrsails@yahoo.com for information.



Warrant Roundup: March 5th-13th

As part of the Great Texas Warrant Roundup, City Councilmembers and KPD officers will be calling those with outstanding warrants on Saturday, March 5th and 12th. This statewide event focuses on violators with misdemeanor warrants.

Anyone on the outstanding warrant list (www.cityofkennedale.com/warrants) should pay their fines immediately to avoid arrest. Payments can be made at the Kennedale Municipal Court (405 Municipal Drive) weekdays from 8:00 to 11:00 a.m. and noon to 5:00 p.m. or online at www.cityofkennedale.com/pay.

If you have questions, please call Melinda Davis at 817-985-2140.

UPDATE: Fort Worth Southeast Landfill Odor Complaints

Staff met with the City of Fort Worth and Republic Services staff at the Southeast Landfill about the persistent offensive odor. We've learned that TCEQ is receiving increased numbers of odor complaints from all eight landfills in the region. The smell problems are largely driven by the large amount of rain received over the past year.

Water causes trash to decompose faster, producing methane gas quicker than the gas well system can collect it.

What's being done at the SE Landfill?

They're drilling additional gas collection wells (six thus far, with plans to add 22 more, bringing the final total to 54), installing a larger flare point, and suspending

the acceptance of biosolids from the Fort Worth and Trinity River Authority sewage treatment facilities.

Odor Complaints can now be submitted at www.cityofkennedale.com/report or by calling Landfill Manager Jane Berry at 972-829-2630.

SINCE 1941 DICKEY'S BARBECUE PIT
Coming Soon!

KENNEDALE DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS WELCOME
ZANEY CUTZ & KENNEDALE FAMILY DENTAL TO THE
Town Center Shopping Area

TWO NEW BUILDINGS COMING SPRING 2016

FOR LEASING INFORMATION CALL CRAIG HUGHES AT 214-543-3821

KPD NEWS

• The Texas Police Chiefs Association Foundation awarded KPD "Re-Recognized Status" in the Texas Law Enforcement Agency Best Practices Recognition Program.

• KPD now offers residents use of their lobby as a safe place to meet and exchange goods and money from online shopping sites like Craigslist. Call 817-985-2160 if you have questions.



ONLINE EXCHANGE SAFE ZONE
THIS AREA IS UNDER 24-HOUR VIDEO SURVEILLANCE

THE KENNEDALE POLICE DEPARTMENT OFFERS THE LOBBY OF THIS BUILDING AS A SAFE PLACE TO EXCHANGE GOODS & MONEY WHEN BUYING OR SELLING ON SITES LIKE CRAIGSLIST.

FOR EMERGENCIES, CALL 9-1-1.
FOR NON-EMERGENCIES, CALL 817-478-5416.

City of
KENNEDALE
Texas
EST. 1887

YOU'RE HERE  YOUR HOME

405 MUNICIPAL DRIVE
KENNE DALE, TX 76060

Free Curbside Recycling of Clothing and Home Goods

PRSR STD
ECRWSS
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
EDDM RETAIL

Keep Kennedale Beautiful (KKB) and the City of Kennedale are proud to be the first city in Tarrant County to offer Simple Recycling, a curbside collection program for unwanted clothing and home goods. **Service begins Wednesday, February 24th**, and is provided at no cost to residents or the city. You will receive special green Simple Recycling bags in the mail. There's no need to schedule a pickup. Simply place your bagged items curbside, next to your recycling and trash bins (not inside) on any Wednesday, and your items will be picked up by a dedicated Simple Recycling truck. For more information or to request additional bags, please visit www.simplerecycling.com/supplies or stop by City Hall.



Local Postal Customer

We hope you enjoy this special print edition of our monthly newsletter. To receive future email editions, visit:

www.cityofkennedale.com/subscribe

 City: [facebook.com/kennedale](https://www.facebook.com/kennedale)
KPD: [facebook.com/kennedalepd](https://www.facebook.com/kennedalepd)
Senior Center: [facebook.com/kennedaleseniors](https://www.facebook.com/kennedaleseniors)
Library: [facebook.com/kennedalepubliclibrary](https://www.facebook.com/kennedalepubliclibrary)
KKB: cityofkennedale.com/kkbfb

 @CityofKennedale

 www.cityofkennedale.com/nd

ALL WEEKEND: artists and vendors, food court, selfie stations (#Brickworks2016), mechanical bull, & music.

We need volunteers! Please contact Kathy Moore at kmoore@cityofkennedale.com or 817-985-2105.

Friday, April 15th 4:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.

9:00 p.m. Lannie Flowers (KHS Class of '75)

Saturday, April 16th 10:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.

8:30 a.m. Historical Walk

10:00 a.m. History of Kennedale Parade

2:00 p.m. Pie Eating Contest

7:30 p.m. The Penguins

9:00 p.m. 95.9 the Ranch DJ Charla Corn

Sunday, April 17th 12:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Supporting our Veterans & Their Families

12:00 p.m. Guitars for Heroes

12:30 p.m. Pet Parade

4:00 p.m. Closing Ceremonies: Scholarships Awarded

KidZone (TownCenter parking lot near the clocktower)

All Weekend: bounce house / giant slide / face painting

Saturday: barrel train & 'Whatever Puppeteers' all day;

Library Story Time & Craft at 1:00 p.m.; Rhythm Path at

3:00 p.m.; Sunday: Pony Rides & Petting Zoo

SEE THE FULL ENTERTAINMENT SCHEDULE AT:

www.cityofkennedale.com/BWevents

BRICKWORKS Festival ART IN THE PARK

**APRIL 15-17, 2016
TOWNCENTER PARK**

www.KennedaleArtsFestival.com

Supporting Local Scholarships and Autism Speaks



CITYOFKENNE DALE.COM/SCHOLARSHIP

BRICKWORKS Festival SILENT AUCTION

SUPPORT THE ARTS

SUPPORT LOCAL STUDENTS

Please join us for a silent auction featuring original student art and donations from local businesses

PROCEEDS FUND LOCAL SCHOLARSHIPS

MARCH 3RD 6:30 TO 8:00 PM

Kennedale Junior High Cafeteria
930 Corry A. Edwards Drive